Towards a Scientific Perspective for International Human-Robotic Space Exploration

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About ISECG

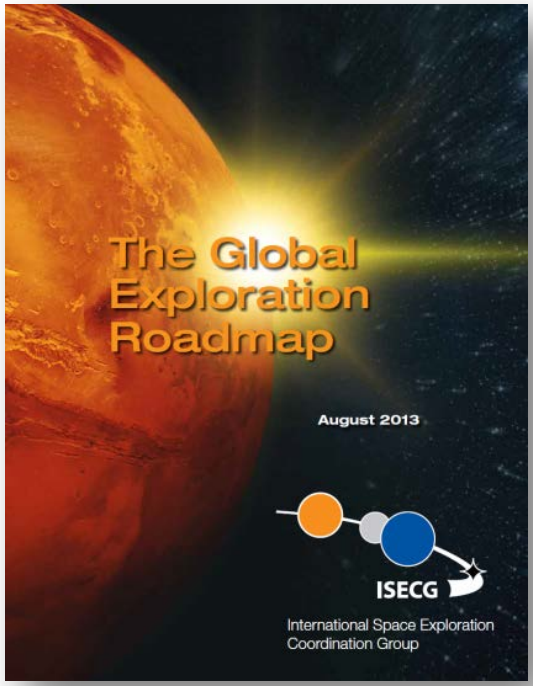
- **ISECG is a non-political agency coordination forum of 14 space agencies**
  - Website: www.globalspaceexploration.org

- **Work collectively in a non-binding, consensus-driven manner towards advancing the Global Exploration Strategy**
  - Provide a forum for discussion of interests, objectives and plans
  - Provide a forum for development of conceptual products
  - Enable the multilateral or bilateral partnerships necessary to accomplish complex exploration missions
  - Promote interest and engagement in space exploration among citizens and society

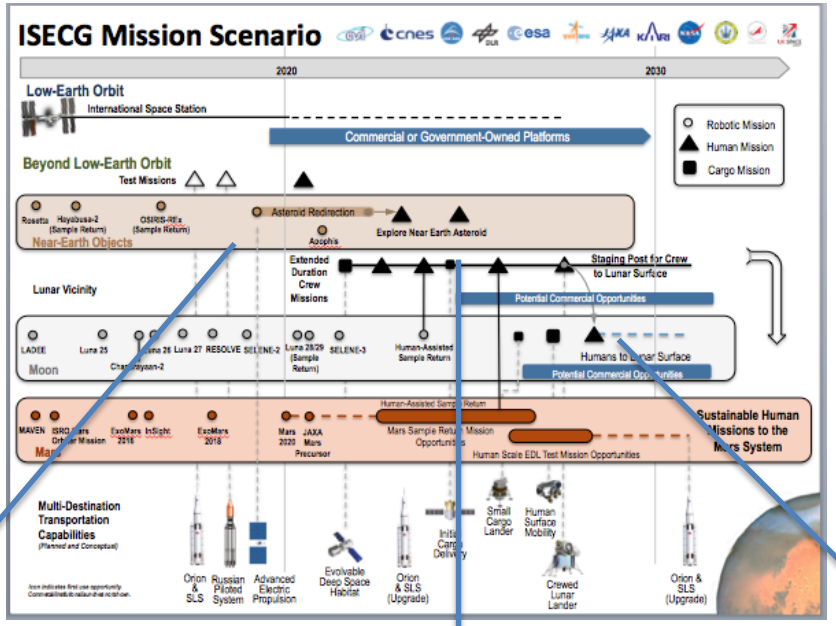
- **ISECG operating principles**
  - Open and inclusive
  - Flexible and evolutionary
  - Effective
  - Mutual interest

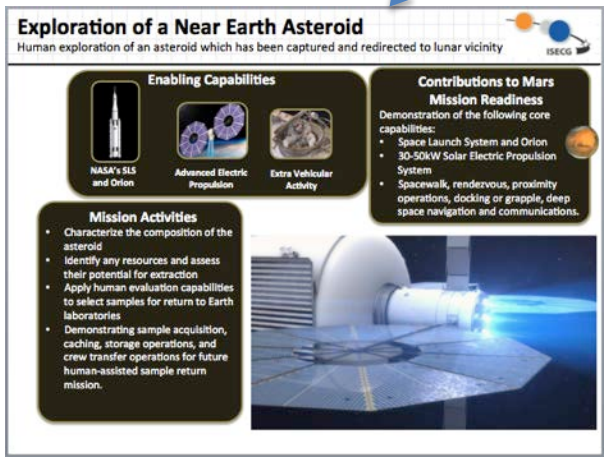
About the Global Exploration Roadmap

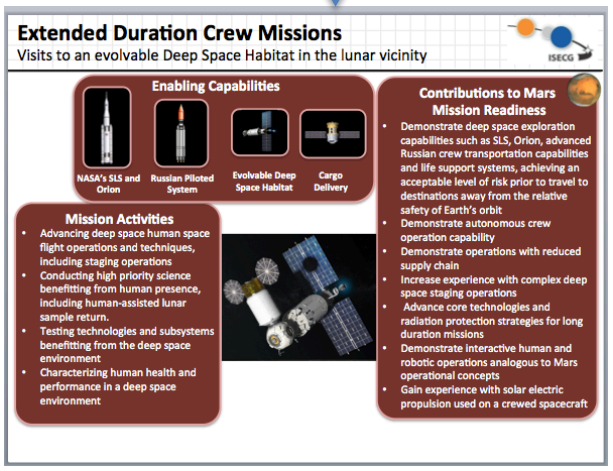
- **The GER is a human space exploration roadmap, recognizing the criticality of increasing synergies with robotic missions while demonstrating the unique and important role humans play in realizing societal benefits**
- **The non-binding document reflects a framework for agency exploration discussions on:**
  - Common goals and objectives
  - Long-range mission scenarios and architectures
  - Opportunities for near-term coordination and cooperation on preparatory activities
- **Since release of updated GER in August 2013, participating agencies have continued discussions and joint work in several areas which are of mutual interest**
  - Increase understanding of design reference missions for early mission themes
- **Highlighting opportunities for the science community with a dedicated Science White Paper and within the GER itself is a priority**

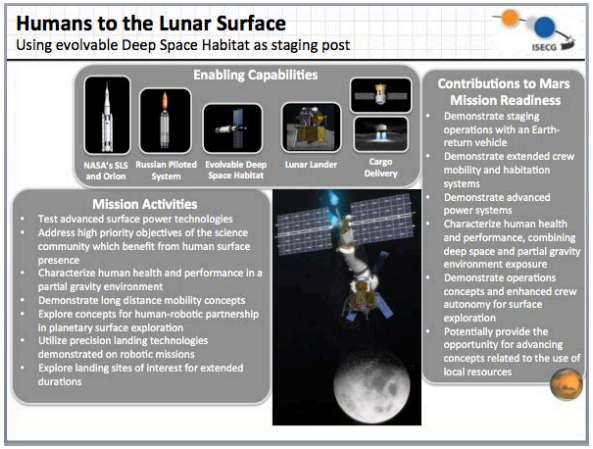


GER Mission Themes









ISECG Interaction with Scientific Communities

- **ISECG agencies acknowledge science communities as major stakeholders and scientific knowledge gain as important benefit of exploration activities.**
  - Scientists in general support GER and want to engage in the discussion.

- **Several agencies agreed in winter 2014/15 to facilitate interaction**
  - ASI, **CNES**, CNSA, CSA, **DLR**, ESA, JAXA, NASA, SSAU, UKSA (+ESF, SSERVI)

- **Objectives**
  - Coordinate **interaction with the science communities** on exploration planning and activities as required for the generation of ISECG products
  - Advance the development of a **Science White Paper** for the articulation of science opportunities in the GER in conjunction with the science communities

ISECG Interaction with Scientific Communities

- **Interaction with science communities present at major conferences / scientific events**
  - e.g. COSPAR 2014 , NASA Exploration Science Forum 2014, European Lunar Symposium 2015, European Lunar and Planetary Conference 2015, IAC 2015

- **Cross-Exchange between scientific groups and ISECG agencies**
  - COSPAR Panel for Exploration:
    - Joint workshop in February 2016 for review/input to Science White Paper
    - Joint session planned at the COSPAR Scientific Assembly in August 2016 to highlight SWP findings
  - International Space Life Sciences Working Group (ISLSWG) inputs already reflected in GER2

Science White Paper – Concept & Scope

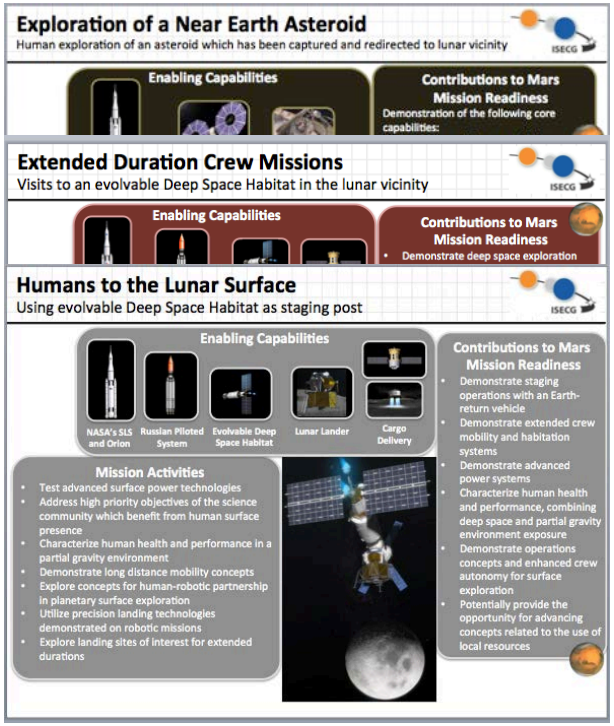
- **Describe an international view of the science that could be enabled by human missions in the GER**
  - Engage the scientific communities in identifying these opportunities
  - Target the same stakeholder community as the GER
  - Focus on human missions and human/robotic concepts
  - Incorporate activities that have feed-forward benefits to Mars exploration

- **Incorporate interdisciplinary scientific topics that**
  - Encompass all relevant science communities and disciplines: planetary science, space science, life sciences, astrobiology, astronomy, physical sciences, etc.
  - Span all destinations (LEO, cis-lunar space, Moon, asteroids, Mars)
  - Incorporate input from the international science communities

Science White Paper – Development Process

- **Apply a transparent, interactive process that stimulates discussion on science opportunities in preparation of GER3**

GER Mission Themes



SWP Concept & Scope — Oct. 2014 — ISECG agencies

Overarching Science Topics

Science Opportunities

Editing & Review

Authors from science communities (led/guided by international Science Advisory Group)

SWP Publication — Fall 2016 — ISECG agencies

SWP Structure

Table of Contents (as of 10/2015) – total ~20 pages

- **Scope & Purpose**
  - Broad interaction between science communities and ISECG agencies
- **Exec. Summary (2)**
  - To be written
- **1. Linkage to GER (2)**
  - GER approach
    - Connect to Goals & Objectives
    - Long-term horizon goal (Mars)
    - Near-term destination focus
  - Human-robotic partnership / Value of human presence
- **2. Science Topics (2)**
  - Introduce topics
  - Spans all destinations
  - Incl. many scientific disciplines
- **3. Cislunar Deep Space Habitat (4)**
- **4. NEA in Cislunar Space (4)**
- **5. Lunar Surface (4)**
  - Each chapter 3-5 to highlight
    - Short summary of the mission theme including DRMs
    - Scientific opportunities structured by science topics
    - Science findings
- **Conclusion (1)**
- **References (1)**
  - E.g. GER2, COSPAR PEX, Decadal Surveys, MEPAG report, ILEWG, others, …

SWP Science Topics

Living and working in space

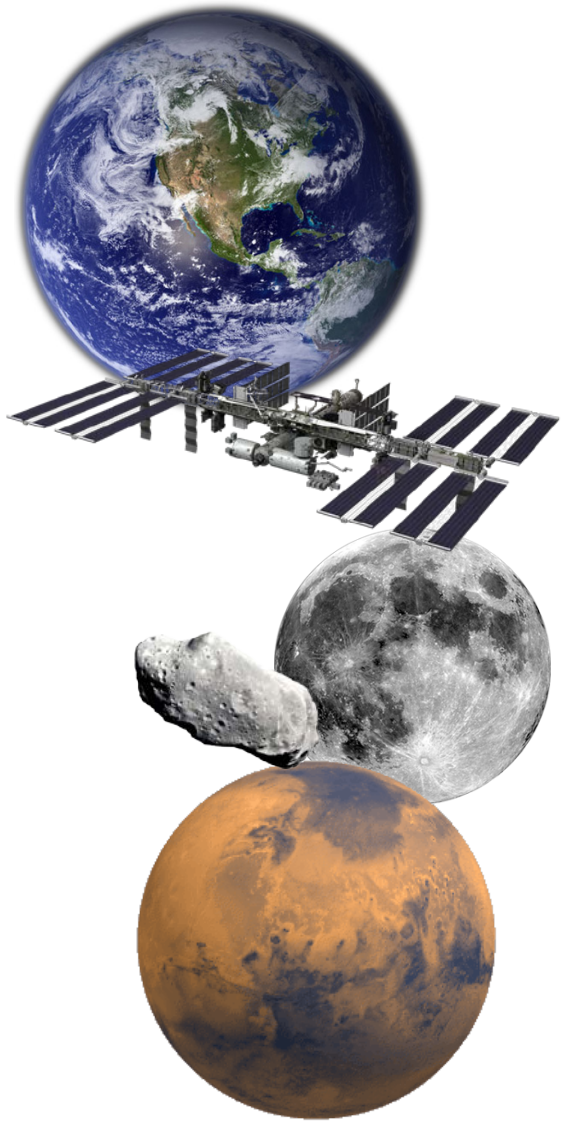
- Overarching questions:
  - How do we become a spacefaring species?
  - How do we sustain life outside Earth?

- Disciplines involved, e.g.
  - Human physiology, life sciences and life support
  - Prospecting and utilising local resources

Our place in the universe

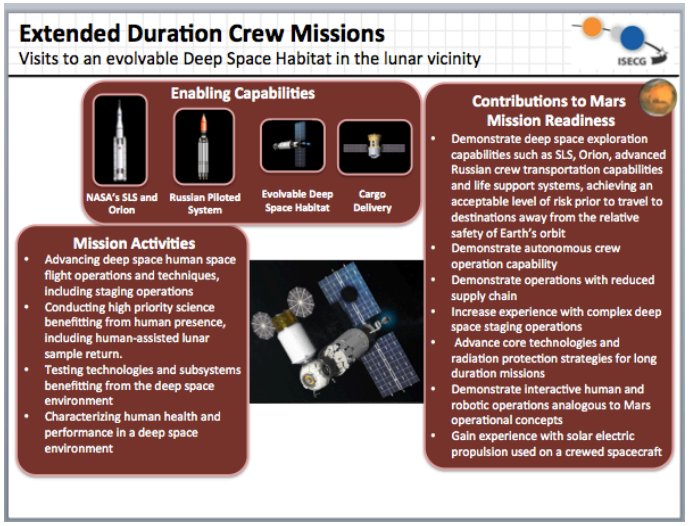
- Overarching question:
  - How do terrestrial planets form and evolve?
  - How does life evolve in the planetary environment?

- Disciplines involved, e.g.
  - Astronomy
  - Planetary geology
  - Solar physics, space physics
  - Astrobiology (understanding the building blocks of life)



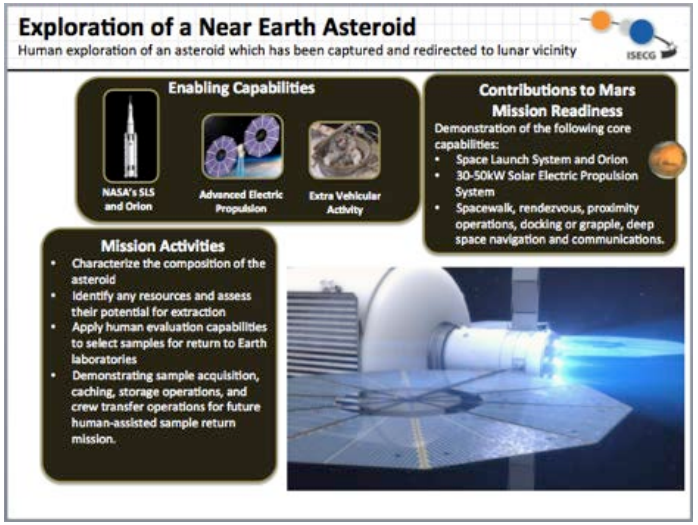
Science Enabled by Humans to a Cislunar Habitat

- **Human-assisted lunar sample return**
  - Increased return through more and improved selection of lunar samples
- **Construct and/or service large space telescopes**
- **Understand combined effects of radiation/reduced-gravity/isolation on humans**
- **Monitor Earth's climate to help design exoplanet observing instrument**
- **Facilitate access to challenging regions by low-latency telerobotics (e.g. permanently shadowed crater floors)**
  - Telerobotics experience useful for Mars exploration



Science Enabled by Humans to a NEA

- **Sample return provides key science**
  - Humans permit careful selection of samples for high sample quality
  - Larger sample return mass compared to robotic missions
  - Increase the value of the current meteorite collections
  - Provide an archive of samples for analyses that must be done on Earth
- **Increased surface access**
  - Multiple drilling sites
  - Exposure ages at different depths
- **Instrument deployment**
  - Placing instruments on the surface enabled by humans
  - Long-term instrument deployment



Science Enabled by Humans to the Lunar Surface

- **Sample return provides key science**
  - Humans best at identifying scientifically important samples
  - Improve our understanding of impact cratering
  - Provide insight into the evolution of the terrestrial planets
  - Study the history of the Sun
- **Understand lunar volatiles**
  - Record of the flux and composition of volatiles
  - Help answer astrobiological questions
  - Install and maintain resource utilization equipment (i.e. generate water)
- **Emplacement of delicate or large astronomical instruments**
- **Understand the physiological effects of the lunar environment on human health, contributing to medical benefits on Earth**
- **Understand how plants and other non-human forms of life adapt to, or can be protected from, the conditions on hostile planetary surfaces**
- **Feed-forward activities (using the Moon as a gateway to the Solar System)**